# Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund Evaluation of a Proposal for the Development of a Tangible Structure, Facility or Educational Program

Project Number: 1206-11 Date: 8 Feb 2007

**Title:** K) Quinby Harbor Enhancements.

The Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund is to be used solely for the purpose of conserving and enhancing finfish taken by recreational anglers, enforcing laws and regulations related to natural resource conservation, improving recreational fishing opportunities, administering the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament program, obtaining necessary data and conducting research for fisheries management, and creating or restoring habitat for species taken by recreational fishermen.

Code of Virginia, Section 28.2-302.3

## A. Project Purpose

1. Does the project meet statutory guidelines for funding?

This project does meet the guidelines for providing public boating access and fishing opportunity.

2. Does the project fulfill a real need and/or provide a substantial benefit to the saltwater recreational fishery?

The actual need of this facility has been proven over the past 25 +/- years of successful service. It's now time to renovate and enhance the facility to meet today's needs.

3. Does the project provides its main, or substantial, benefits to the saltwater recreational angler?

The benefit of this facility has been proven over the past 25 +/- years of successful service.

#### **B.** Project Analysis

#### 1. What are the project's strengths?

The renovation of the concrete boat ramp and bulkhead are at the point of maximized life expectancy. It's time to provide the work on the ramp and bulkhead.

### 2. What are the project's weaknesses?

There are two weaknesses in this project: first, the floating fishing pier is a proven maintenance challenge. The floats will eventually become less buoyant and unstable. The floats are vulnerable to vandalism, and during times of hurricane or extreme high water – they can float over and off of the columns that guide the elevation. A fixed Pier is much more forgiving, durable and stable.

Secondly, the direction that fishermen (on the Pier) casting their lines are directly in the channel that leads to the harbor and route of boats entering or leaving the harbor. These fishing lines will be cast directly in the path of moving boats causing a possible conflict or hazardous condition.

## C. Project Budget

1. Is the budget realistic and reasonable for 1) the size and type of project proposed;2) the number of people likely to benefit; and, 3) the area benefiting from the project considering the area's number of saltwater fishermen and license sales?

The budget is realistic, reasonable and does meet all three of the items in this question.

2. What is the local commitment to the project (cost sharing, future management and maintenance, in-kind commitments of personnel, etc.)?

This question is one to be directed to the County. However, future maintenance of the site and improvements will be somewhat costly and must be accepted by the County with all earnest and sincerity. Frequent and regular inspections of the Fishing Pier needs to be placed in the hands of a responsible and competent staff person, and should be considered a high priority to protect the safety of the user(s).

D. Provide an overall evaluation of the project, including a numerical ranking of the project on the "SCORE" scale provided.

My overall evaluation of the project is favorable and with the concerns listed in the review. If addressed, understood, anticipated, maintained and funded, this could be a very worthwhile project that benefits all saltwater users.